



U.S. Codex Office

Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling

AGENCY: U.S. Codex Office, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Codex Office is sponsoring a public meeting on May 16, 2023 from 10 AM - 12 PM EDT. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft U.S. positions to be discussed at the 42nd Session of the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling (CCMAS) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC), which will meet in Budapest, Hungary from June 6-13, 2023. The U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius and the Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs recognize the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 42nd Session of the CCMAS and to address items on the agenda.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2023, from 10 AM - 12 PM EDT.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will take place via Video Teleconference only. Documents related to the 42nd Session of the CCMAS will be accessible via the internet at the following address:

<https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/meetings/detail/en/?meeting=CCMAS&session=42>

Dr. Patrick Gray, U.S. Delegate to the 42nd Session of the CCMAS, invites interested U.S. parties to submit their comments electronically to the following email address:
Patrick.Gray@fda.hhs.gov

Registration: Attendees may register to attend the public meeting at the following link:

<https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIsceGupzgqEl-PAXtt-4y7k0SI1hwZ2rY>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

For further information about the 42nd session of CCMAS, contact U.S. Delegate, Dr. Patrick Gray, Research Chemist, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, Office of Regulatory Science, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, (240)402-5026, Patrick.gray@fda.hhs.gov. For further information about the public meeting, contact the U.S. Codex Office by email at: uscodex@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Codex Alimentarius Commission was established in 1963 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and implementation by governments, Codex seeks to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade.

The Terms of Reference for the Codex Committee on Methods of Analysis and Sampling are:

- (a) to define the criteria appropriate to Codex Methods of Analysis and Sampling;
- (b) to serve as a coordinating body for Codex with other international groups working in methods of analysis and sampling and quality assurance systems for laboratories;
- (c) to specify, on the basis of final recommendations submitted to it by the other bodies referred to in (b) above, Reference Methods of Analysis and Sampling appropriate to Codex Standards which are generally applicable to a number of foods;
- (d) to consider, amend, if necessary, and endorse, as appropriate, methods of analysis and sampling proposed by Codex (Commodity) Committees, except that methods of analysis and sampling for residues of pesticides or veterinary drugs in food, the assessment of microbiological quality and safety in food, and the assessment of specifications for food additives, do not fall within the terms of reference of this Committee;
- (e) to elaborate sampling plans and procedures, as may be required;
- (f) to consider specific sampling and analysis problems submitted to it by the Commission or any of its Committees; and,
- (g) to define procedures, protocols, guidelines or related texts for the assessment of food laboratory proficiency, as well as quality assurance systems for laboratories.

The CCMAS is hosted by Hungary. The United States attends the CCMAS as a member country of Codex.

Issues to Be Discussed at the Public Meeting

The following items on the agenda for the 42nd Session of the CCMAS will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Matters referred by CAC and other subsidiary bodies
- Endorsement of Methods of Analysis Provisions and Sampling Plans in Codex Standards
- Review of methods of analysis in the Codex Standard *Recommended Methods of Analysis and Sampling* (CXS 234-1999)
- Fats and oils workable package
- Cereals, pulses and legumes workable package
- Processed fruits and vegetable workable package
- Information document: *Guidelines on Measurement Uncertainty* (CXG 54-2004)
- Revision of the *General Guidelines on Sampling* (CXG 50-2004)
- Discussion paper on criteria to select Type II methods from multiple Type III methods
- Report of an Inter-Agency Meeting on Methods of Analysis
- Other business and future work

Public Meeting

At the public meeting on May 16, 2023, draft U.S. positions on the agenda items will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be offered at the meeting or sent to Dr. Patrick Gray, U.S. Delegate to the 42nd Session of the CCMAS (see ADDRESSES). Written comments should state that they relate to activities of the 42nd Session of the CCMAS.

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, the U.S. Codex Office will announce this Federal Register publication on-line through the USDA Codex Web page located at: <http://www.usda.gov/codex>, a link that also offers an email subscription service providing access to information related to Codex. Customers can add or delete their subscriptions themselves and have the option to password protect their accounts.

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etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

Done at Washington, DC, on April 7, 2023.

Mary Frances Lowe,

U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius.

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